in the Himalaya Mountain, the flow of river Ganga has gone far away from the main source 'Gaumukh';

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(d) The steps taken/being taken by the Government to bring back the flow of river Ganga to 'Gaumukh'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The river Ganga originates from 'Gaumuk' which is the mouth of the Gangotri glacier. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been carrying out studies on the recession of Gangotri glacier since 1935. As per data available with GSI, Gangotri glacier has receded by 18.80 metres (m)/year during 1935—96 period. The Gangotri glacier showed a higher rate of recession between 1956 and 1996. The highest rate of recession in the order of 38.00m/year was recorded during 1975-76. GSI has not carried out studies on recession of Gangotri glacier since 1996. Studies by other organizations after 1996 have revealed a rate of 12.10 m/year during 2004-05. As far as recession of the glaciers is concerned, it is a natural phenomenon and cannot be stopped using short term artificial measures.

Notification of rules under the Forest Act

*49. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rules under the Forest Act have been notified and the Act enforced;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof; and

(c) whether those tribals evicted from their homes in the absence of the law and the rules have been restored with their homestead?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has come into force on 31st December, 2007. The rules for the implementation of this Act have also been notified on 1st January, 2008.

(c) The State/UT Governments have to implement the said Act for the recognition of rights of the tribals and other traditional forest dwellers. There is no case reported by the State/UT Governments regarding eviction of tribals since enactment of this Act. However, the Government of India has issued guidelines to the State/UT Governments *vide* its letter dated 21.12.2004 for discontinuance of eviction of tribals.

Proposals for inter-State roads from Rajasthan

†*50. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals of Rajasthan State with regard to inter-State roads are pending with the Central Government;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.